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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. AIDS Information Switzerland (Special; 2000)

Part I. Introduction

i. The object of the association is to provide information and promote action against the spread of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infection and to support persons infected with HIV: to disseminate accurate information on HIV infection and on the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS); to inform the medical profession of scientific findings on HIV infection; to advise members of the caring professions and persons with political and social responsibilities; to advise persons interested in AIDS-related issues; to advise HIV positive persons and AIDS sufferers on an individual basis; to support the medical profession in advising and supporting HIV positive persons and AIDS sufferers; to provide social, financial, medical and psychological support for HIV positive persons and AIDS sufferers; to promote interdisciplinary scientific research into HIV infection and AIDS. The association supports the achievement of these aims mainly by way of: collaboration and information-sharing with experts in Switzerland and elsewhere, with scientific institutions and authorities, and with private organizations pursuing the same or similar aims; upkeep of a documentation bureau; publishing (production, translation, publication, distribution); organization of information events; provision of advice by phone, in writing and in person; provision of financial resources to form a social fund; support for firms, organizations and authorities in their efforts to help HIV positive persons and AIDS sufferers; support for and implementation of projects helping to achieve the above-mentioned aims.

ii. While the Organization's aims and purposes remained the same, an amendment, approved by AIDS Information Switzerland's (AIS) General Assembly on 23 September 2004, reduced two kinds of membership to one with a fixed membership fee of CHF 50 per year. Furthermore, the General Assembly has to be held every second year instead of every year. Both changes resulted in less administrative effort and costs. On 24 September 2005, the General Assembly approved the new location of the association; which is the place of the secretariat. New organizational affiliations since 2003 are the following: the umbrella organization for abstinence-based drug policy (Dachverband abstinenzorientierte Drogenpolitik) (2004); International Federation of Centers and Institutes of Bioethics of Personalist Inspiration (Federazione Internazionale dei Centri ed Istituti di Bioetica di Ispirazione Personalista / FIBIP) (2004).

Part II. Contribution of AIDS Information Switzerland to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings as follows:

Representatives of AIDS Information Switzerland attended the following meetings:

2007: In Europe, related to human rights: "Human Rights Council" 4th session on 12 March to 5 April in Geneva, Switzerland; "IV Latin-American and Caribbean Forum on HIV/AIDS and STD" (sexually transmitted diseases) on 17–20 April in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

2006: On health and status of women: "Commission on the Status of Women", 50th session on 27 February to 10 March in the United Nations headquarters in New York, United States of America.

2005: The World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA): "WFUNA Conference on the United Nations and the Future" on October 21, 2005 in Geneva, Switzerland; meetings in Europe, all related to human rights respectively health and status of women: "Commission on Human Rights" sixty-first session on 14 March to 22 April in Geneva, Switzerland; "Commission on Human Rights, Sub commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights" on 21 to 22 July in Geneva, Switzerland; "Commission on the Status of Women, forty-ninth session" on 28 February to 11 March in New York, United States of America; World Health Organization (WHO) supported seminars in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on 15-16 September; "III. Argentine Congress of Medical Right and Health, and III. International Seminar on Safety and Quality of Health Care Centers and II. International Seminar on Medical Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration; 31 May–3 June in Washington DC, United States of America: Global Health Council 32nd Annual Conference – Health System: Putting Pieces Together; 24–27 August in Barcelona, Spain: Ethics and Philosophy in the Emerging Medical Technologies; AIS representative presented a paper "Ecosystem versus Medicine".

2004: Meetings on health and status of women: "Commission on the Status of Women, 48th session" on 1-12 March in New York, United States of America.

ii) Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters as follows:

2004: 4 March: "Report on our HIV and AIDS prevention projects in sub-Saharan Africa in 2002" (province of Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo) sent to the ***Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)*** in Geneva, Switzerland; 22 July: Questionnaire, Success Story and Summary Format to Chief, Non-Governmental Section, Office for Economic and Social Council Support and Coordination, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), United Nations, New York; 5 November: Meeting at the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in Geneva, Switzerland (with the regional officer for the African Great Lakes Region and the epidemic and impact monitoring manager); 6 December: Participation in Consultation on the Third Outline of a Text of the Declaration on Universal Norms on Bioethics.

2005: 30 September: Comunicado de la Federación Internacional de Centros e Institutos de Bioética de Inspiración Personalista (FIBIP) acerca de la Declaración Universal sobre Bioética y Derechos Humanos de la United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); 3 October: Second report on our projects in sub-Saharan Africa (Democratic Republic of the Congo) to Country Development Advisor, Division for Africa Country and Regional Support Department (CRD), sent to UNAIDS, Geneva, Switzerland.

2006: 20 February: Third report on our projects in sub-Saharan Africa (Democratic Republic of Congo) sent to Epidemic & Impact Monitoring, Geneva, Switzerland.

2007: 14 December: Report sent to OHCHR in view of 7th session in 2008 on access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/Aids, tuberculosis and malaria; 30 March: Grant application to the United Nations Voluntary fund for Victims of Torture for training activities, seminars and conferences, such as the symposium about torture, rape, HIV/AIDS and rehabilitation of the victims in Africa from January to December 2008 in Bujumbura, Burundi.

iii) Initiatives undertaken by AIS in support of intentionally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals as follows:

a) Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals:

Goal 4 - Reduce Child Mortality: 1892 pregnant women have benefit from free, voluntarily and confidentially screening for HIV, 40 HIV infected pregnant women given medical treatment to prevent newborns from mother-child transmission in Bukavu and Kamituga/Mwenga, Democratic Republic of the Congo. Goal 5 - Improve Maternal Health: 1892 pregnant women tested for HIV, 40 HIV infected pregnant women given medical treatment against AIDS related diseases in Bukavu and Kamituga/Mwenga, Democratic Republic of the Congo (see goal 4) / 1,9 tons of pharmaceuticals (HIV tests, confirmation tests, pharmaceuticals for treatment of Aids related diseases) and laboratory equipment for 2 centers for free, voluntary and confidential HIV test and counseling centers in Bukavu and Kamituga/Mwenga, Democratic Republic of the Congo. Goal 6 - Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases: 30,500 persons have benefit from free, voluntary and confidential HIV screening, 1600 HIV infected persons given medical treatment against AIDS related diseases in Democratic Republic of the Congo, in our 2 centers for free, voluntary and confidential HIV test and counseling centers in Bukavu and Kamituga/Mwenga, Democratic Republic of Congo; 1.4 million people informed about HIV infection via radio spots at best airtime, South Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo; 11,000 HIV counseling interviews in our 2 test centers in Bukavu and Kamituga/Mwenga, Democratic Republic of the Congo; more than 7000 counseling interviews in denominational institutions in Bukavu and Kamituga/Mwenga, Democratic Republic of the Congo; 2005: reprint of music CD with HIV prevention songs as well as a song against exploitation of children as soldiers in armed conflicts – for broadcasting purposes in African countries; 48,8000 distributed educational leaflets on HIV/Aids in the South Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo; 65,600 distributed educational German, French and Italian leaflets on HIV/Aids to teachers, medical practices and individuals mainly in Switzerland; 882,800 educational German, French and Italian letters on HIV/Aids to a large audience in Switzerland; 25,745 forwarded documentation on HIV/Aids in Switzerland; 7 speeches on HIV prevention in 2004–2007 in Argentina; partnership with Programa Cambio, an Argentine institution working in the field of drug and alcohol abuse in order to improve knowledge about HIV/Aids. Goal 8 - Develop a Global Partnership for Development: In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries, 1,9 tons of pharmaceuticals (HIV tests, confirmation tests, drugs for treatment of Aids related diseases) and laboratory equipments for 2 HIV test centers in Democratic Republic of the Congo; See goals 4, 5, 6: all activities are achieved by partnership with the Congolese foundation Kataliko Actions for Africa (KAF), NGO with consultative status to the Human Rights Commission of the African Union.

b) Activities in Support of Global Principles: every year, press releases on the occasion of World AIDS Day to all Swiss news papers, radio and TV stations; AIS provides support for psychological assistance, nutritional and medical aid as well as legal assistance for victims of torture prisoners in Kamituga, Democratic Republic of the Congo, provided by KAF (see goal 8); 26 June 2007: International Day in Support of Victims of Torture was commemorated by disinfecting prison cells in Kamituga and pleadings for discharging illegally kept prisoners, provided by KAF; 2006: In

cooperation with Programa Cambio (Argentina), AIS has dressed a survey about knowledge about HIV/Aids and reasons for break off of treatment among drug addicts in Argentina.

2. Alulbayt Foundation
(Special; 2004)

Part I – Introduction

The aims and purposes of Alulbayt Foundation (AF) is primarily the social welfare and educational development of Muslim communities locally (grassroots level) and intra-regionally (international level) in accordance with the humanitarian objectives of the organization's patron, his eminence Grand Ayatullah Sistani. Moreover, to promote overall the educational, developmental, social and cultural principles of universality enshrined in the United Nations Charter which the foundation's aims and objectives and its ongoing work in different thematic areas reflect. This is especially relevant in the following areas: (i) The Foundation's commitment to eradicate poverty and disease in the developing world; (ii) Provide access to education (especially for rural communities and the vulnerable); (iii) Promote inter-cultural, inter-ethnic and inter-religious dialogue and understanding; (iv) Respond to humanitarian needs, including emergency relief and provide funds and resources to women and children including widows and orphans as victims of conflict; (v) Participate in areas that promotes the principles of United Nations Economic and Social Council.

Alulbayt Foundation in carrying out these aims through promoting self-help, self-reliance and sustainable development projects. Alulbayt is providing funding, resources and grassroots awareness raising strategies to enable access to education. The approach in this context is integral to and respectful of the cultural specificities of the target group. Also, we carry out our aims by organizing seminars, conferences and lectures to help promote dialogue and understanding among cultures and civilizations. Our foundation is actively partnering with other organizations and bodies in advancing shared universal values and ethics of humanity, also by providing a forum for the facilitating meetings and conversations at all levels between religious, cultural, national and other representatives.

Part II - Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations and its bodies.

2005: At the United Nations headquarters, New York, representatives of the Foundation attended (i) 43rd Commission for Social Development on 9-18 February. They were involved in discussions concerning women's rights and participation in society; (ii) Non-Governmental Organizations Forum on 8 February; (iii) Submitted a report to the 5th Session of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities from 24 January to 4 February.

2007: (i) Submitted a report to the Theme for the High Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council for its substantive session in 2007 titled "Alulbayt Foundation's views on strengthening efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger through the global partnership for development". Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland 2-5 July; (ii) Attended the International Forum of Civil Society meeting at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) headquarters in Paris, 25 October. They took part in roundtable discussions on NGO participation and cooperation with intergovernmental institutions.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDG):

Goal 1 – Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger: (i) Alulbayt Foundation opened a centre for Afghan refugees in Zabul, the Islamic Republic of Iran on 5 June 2004 providing financial and humanitarian help. The Foundation has set up a help center for Afghan refugees who were forced to flee their country because of the war and oppression and who are yet still suffering from heart-rending poverty and deprivation. Realizing our responsibility as human beings towards these oppressed people, our office stepped forward and embarked upon helping them in one way or the other; (ii) The Foundation provided emergency and humanitarian help to the Iraqi refuges who fled the country from the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic and the Islamic Republic of Iran. Also it provided emergency aid to the Lebanese people displaced around the country due to the conflicts; (iii) Helping internally displaced refugees in Iraq through financial support and basic provisions; (iv) Opened a center in Dezful on 17 February 2004 to help vulnerable Iraqi refugees in the western provinces of the Islamic Republic of Iran. This center gave assistance to a large number of refugees who were settled in different camps in the Islamic Republic of Iran. These refugees have long been receiving care and assistance from the office of Alulbayt.

A summary of the assistances provided for the refugees are as follows: (a) Medical aid. In less than a year as many as 7000 Iraqi patients have been treated; (b) Financial support for the families living in camps and else where in the cities of the Islamic Republic of Iran; (c) Distribution of most necessary items such as rice, oil, flour, meat, biscuits, detergents, blankets etc.; (d) Establishing public libraries; (v) One of the most important activities carried out by our Foundation is helping people in need and providing relief for those affected by floods and earthquakes. Hundreds of thousands are spent each year by the offices or our representatives to help affected people get food, blankets, medicine etc.; (vi) Alulbayt Foundation opened a charitable clinic in Qum, the Islamic Republic of Iran on 23 September 2004 with an aim to assist the poor and the low-income people for their medical treatments. The clinic is equipped with modern technologies and equipments and has some of the best expert doctors, nurses and personnel in the city. Some of the services offered by this clinic are as under: (a) Specialized medical treatment: Including ear, nose, eye, kidney, intestinal and mental diseases, allergies, bone fractures etc.; (b) General medical treatments; (c) Injections, dressing and surgeries.

Goal 2 – Achieve universal primary education: Alulbayt Foundation established a Saturday School for the young Muslim community in London, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on 11 September 2004, to promote education and integration into the wider community. The foundation opened a centre that carries out educational programs for the Iraqi refugees in Dezful in the Western Provenance of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The centre also provided youth activities programs. The Foundation published tens of books in Arabic, Persian, Urdu, Turkish and English covering wide range of topics that helped to educate people further about Religion, Ethics and Sociology. Currently the office in London is working on publishing a book about the history of Samarra and the two attacks which destroyed the shrine of the two Imams.

Goal 3 – Promote gender equality and empower women: Alulbayt Foundation believes that women complete the society and their presence in different fields will bring this society forward. In London,

the United Kingdom, the Alulbayt Foundation created new job opportunities for women and encouraged equal opportunities for them to become more active within their fields. This is most clearly seen in the school (opened September 2004) which the Foundation operates, which has around 70 percent of its staff as women. In the Islamic Republic of Iran Alulbayt Foundation has opened centers (Al-Zahra School, June 2005 and Al-Zahra Centre, September 2006) especially for women to educate them further and offer them different classes such as IT classes to train them well for their future careers.

Goal 4 – Reduce child mortality: To reduce child mortality, the offices of Alulbayt Foundation in different parts of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Syrian Arab Republic have ensured that children have free access to health facilities and medicine and have increased the number of child specialist hospitals in these parts. Also the Foundation offers medical help and medicine to young Iraqi and Lebanese children who fled their country due to the conflicts that their countries face. It offers this assistance through financial means and through agreement with local health practitioners.

Goal 5 – Improve maternal health: Alulbayt Foundation expanded the Roqayyah Charitable Maternity Hospital on 13 May 2004 the Islamic Republic of Iran. The hospital offers services under the supervision of Elaam district Health Department. Its main objective is to provide services to women of low income families and train a large number of midwives for maternity care. Another clinic has been built in Elaam named Al-Mojtaba (opened 14 January 2008 but expanded to include surgical wards in January 2005) aimed at easing the sufferings of the needy and destitute. Services offered by this Clinic are partially free of charge. The Clinic consists of a special maternity ward to provide front line pre and post-maternal health services for local women.

Goal 8 - Develop a global partnership for development: Efforts are underway to coordinate with United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNESCO and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to improve the situation on the ground for victims of the Iraq conflict and to provide a framework for future cooperation. Work with Dr Mourad Zmit and Dr Usam Ghaidan of UNESCO has taken part to advice on the reconstruction of Samarra, Iraq. Contact is ongoing with staff at the UNDP office in Baghdad (Paolo Lembo) and the UNICEF office in Beirut to facilitate projects such as schools and clinics in Baghdad and Najaf.

3. European Network of Policewomen (Special; 1996)

Part 1 - Introduction

i. Aims and purposes: Due to the globalization effects as well as the fading of the European borders societies are changing more rapidly. This also affects each police and law enforcement organization throughout Europe as other problematic issues are floating to the surface. International cooperation became an irreversible necessity which stimulates more flexibility and new approaches within each police and law enforcement organization. In order to cope with these new requirements, European Network of Policewomen (ENP) extended its initial aim to 'optimize the position of women within the European police and law enforcement organizations' with the issues of gender

mainstreaming and the management of diversity. We emphasize that our initial aim, based on the fundamental values of the equality of all mankind, freedom, justice and solidarity, according to the democratic principles and the fundamental rights as laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, will remain a guiding principle. We are to raise awareness of the benefit of having more women within the Police both on operational and management level and also to empower those women who are already working in policing. In more details, the course of action includes the promotion and empowerment of women and at the same time the stimulation of the European police and law enforcement organizations to recruit, retain and to offer women career development opportunities and contribution to an increase in the number of women in senior management/decision making positions.

The financial year runs from January to December. The basic funding is shouldered on a European level namely by the associated member organizations. The ENP is using a remainder budget left from the subvention obtained from the Dutch Police in 2003.

For the period 2004 additional budget was raised by the Police Board of Estonia (€ 3.000, annually), the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform of Ireland contributed once € 5.000, and the Andorran Police contributed € 3.000, in 2005 and 2006, as well as donations from other associated members on a voluntary basis in the entire period 2004–2007 in different amounts. It also has to be recognized that the home organization of the elected President, the Austrian Ministry of Interior (Austrian Federal Police) substantially contributed by fully exempting the President for the first two years period (2006–2007) taking over the necessary expenses which, amongst others, allowed the President's attendance at conferences, meetings, seminars and/or symposia and proper lobbying activities. The Dutch Expertise Centre for Diversity (DECD) is one of the main contributors to the organizational costs and, in addition, is providing (on part-time basis) a policy advisor working in the Head Office. In 2007 the ENP issued a new business plan for the period 2008–2010 in order to maintain existing funds and to raise new funding.

Associated Countries: At present 32 police organisations out of 27 European countries are represented within our organisation.

Constitution/By-Laws: In October 2004 the General Board agreed on the proposed internal classification of the associated member countries into four (4) clusters, taking into account various aspects such as culture, language, phase of development, geographical position and needs. After evaluation in 2005 the cluster classification was extended to (5).

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The omission of the larger part of our structural income has had a major impact on our organization. We were forced to reduce and focus our activities in Europe on such beneficial for our target group with as consequence that the ENP could not delegate participants to the United Nations meetings. This situation – including the drastic reduction of staff in the Head Office - makes attendance at international meetings/conferences very difficult. However the received United Nations information is regularly disseminated and used in lectures/seminars.

i. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings.

The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), workshop on 'Reviewing Good Practices of Gender Mainstreaming for police and law enforcement Officers' in 20-23 March 2007, Brindisi, Italy. The President attended and shared good practice. Contribution to the development of guidelines for the integration of gender perspectives in the operational activities of police personnel deployed to United Nations Peacekeeping Mission.

ii. Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Joint event with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU), organized a workshop on 'Policewomen in Upper Management Positions', 5-6 June 2007, Madrid, Spain. The ENP (Executive Board) supported and contributed with expertise to the preparation and the workshop, exchanged good practice with other participants and contributed to the elaboration of recommendations. The president facilitated the final discussion on conclusions.

iii. Initiatives undertaken in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals: The ENP contributed to the goals in general and to the MDGs in specific in Europe (specifically within police and law enforcement).

Goal 3 - Promote gender equality and empower women: Building capacities, strengthening opportunities, increasing access, eliminating inequality, increasing women's representation in policing. **ACTIONS**: (i) Communication/network training for policewomen – 2004, Milan, Italy; (ii) Career Development Seminars – 2004, Tallinn, Estonia; 2005, Zurich, Switzerland; 2007, Budapest, Hungary (iii) Round table discussion on Domestic Violence – 2004, Zurich, Switzerland and on Diversity, a business case – 2006, Norwegian Police, Oslo, Norway; (iv) Assemblies with European policewomen and exchange of good practice – 2004, Zurich, Switzerland; 2004 – Vienna, Austria; 2006 – Tallinn, Estonia; (v) Organization of conferences: (a) Diversity Managers Needed, 2005, Leeds, Ireland; (b) Conciliation Family and Labour Life, 2006, Escaldes-Engordany, Andorra; (c) Gender Mainstreaming in the European Police Organizations – The Ultimate Recipe for Equality?, 2006, Vienna, Austria; (vi) Lectures in other conferences/seminars: (a) 2006, Conference Gender Mainstreaming, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina; (b) 2007, Conference Police-E-Quality, Tampere, Finland; (c) 2007, Conference Equal Opportunities within Police Organisations, Budapest, Hungary; (vii) Participation in other conferences/seminars: (a) 2004, Symposium Community Policing, Milan, Italy; (b) 2004, Policewomen Conference, Barcelona, Spain; (c) 2005, Conference Equal Opportunities, Tallinn, Estonia; (d) 2005, Academic Session Policewomen - Diversity in Uniform, Brussels, Belgium; (e) 2005, Conference Future requirements in Organisation and Deployment under the View of Diversity; Frankfurt, Germany; (f) 2005, Conference 20th anniversary of Catalan Policewomen, Barcelona, Spain; (viii) Public Research 'Facts and Figures' & General Information (in progress) and (ix) Publication seven (7) editions of the ENP Newsletter (copies available).

4. Links Incorporated
(Special; 2004)

PART I. Introduction

The Links Incorporated is an international women's service organization of over 11,000 women with 275 chapters located in 41 states, the District of Columbia in the United States of America, Nassau, Bahamas, Frankfort, Germany and South Africa. The aims and purposes of the organization are committed to civic, educational and cultural activities with the singular purpose of serving community needs for the improvement of life and the pursuit of excellence. One of the primary objectives of The Links, Incorporated is to develop and provide relevant programs for community enhancement. The three-fold purpose of the organization is education, civic engagement and intercultural exchange. They are structured and administered through four facets of Services to Youth, National Trends and Services, the Arts, and International Trends and Services which includes the non-governmental organizations (NGO) representative to the United Nations. It is this program facet that addresses issues and concerns that impact global quality of life issues, especially in Africa and the Diaspora. The activities detailed in this report illustrate the organization's involvement in pursuing the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals. Also, because of limited human and financial resources we have not participated in the major conferences of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies as often as might be expected in work supporting the United Nations global principles.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations.

The following Links, Incorporated 2004-2007 programs focused on the United Nations **Millennium Development Goals 2- Achieve universal primary education and 5, Improve maternal health:**

The objective of The Links, Incorporated's **Safe Motherhood Initiative** is to work through partnerships such as with the "White Rose Alliance" to assure awareness, act as advocates, pursue appropriate actions and develop mentorship programs. Awareness of key issues surrounding safe motherhood is promoted both in the United States and internationally. The organization attempted to raise awareness by participating in conferences, symposia and seminars in churches and educational institutions during the fall of 2005. The **Maama Kit** promotes clean and safe birth initiatives, builds alliances for change and serves as a voice for women unable to speak for them. The Maama Kit currently provides clean and safe births to women of Uganda, Mozambique, Ethiopia and Kenya.

The overall objective of this initiative between 2005 and 2007 was to contribute to the reduction of maternal and peri-natal morbidity and mortality (illness and deaths) through clean and safe delivery. Members of The Links, Incorporated continue to purchase these kits and provide them to support women and their families in developing countries. In 2006, the International leadership of The Links, Incorporated travelled to Uganda to meet some of the families and provide Maama Kits and other supplies. The Director of the World Health Organization named The Links, Incorporated, as the lead organization in the area of Safe Motherhood.

2) ***Uganda Tour of Light*** **(Goals 2 and 5).** This initiative focuses on assisting the youth in the country of Uganda. In partnership with the Uganda Government, The Links, Incorporated sponsored The ***Uganda Tour of Light*** which features Ugandan children who have become orphaned due to their parents having the AIDS virus. They travel to various cities throughout the United States where Links,

Incorporated chapters sponsor, host and present them in fundraising events. The funds raised are designated for the orphanage in Entebbe, Uganda. Also, The Links, Incorporated sponsored a special trip to Uganda to deliver educational supplies to the schools.

3) Education across the Miles (Goal 2). The **Education across the Miles, Schools for the Children in Africa**. This program was established in partnership with the International Foundation for Education and Self-Help (IFESH), and in collaboration with the governments of South Africa and Nigeria. The Links, Incorporate worked in partnership with other non-governmental and educational organizations, financial institutions and individuals to assist in restoring the educational system as well as the dignity and nobility of the learning process. Over several years The Links, Incorporated in partnership with IFESH and collaboration with the governments of South Africa and Nigeria has built and renovated over 62 schools which amounts to a value of over $1 million USD. Further, The Links, Incorporated provided many of these schools with educational materials and supplies. The impact of this program has provided two and three classroom modern schools containing water and restrooms within walking distance for a large number of primary age children.

4) The Model United Nations Program (Goal 2). The Links, Incorporated has worked in partnership with the United Nations Association. The program is designed to work with youth throughout various communities to encourage and inspire them to become more interested in international and world affairs through the work of the United Nations. The organization has generated a higher level of awareness and visibility through several United Nations programs including the Global Classrooms.

6) Day of the African Child (Goal 2). The Day of the African Child was celebrated on 16 June 2004-07 in partnership with the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the South African Ambassador and the South African Consul General to the United States. It was officially declared *the Day of the African Child* in memory of the slain Black South African school children who were massacred in Soweto, South Africa, on 16 June 1976.

7) Rwanda/Liberia School-In-A-Box (Goal 2). The Links, Incorporated responded to a call from the United Nations' International Children's Fund (UNICEF) to form a partnership to promote the cause of basic education for the refugee children of Rwanda and Liberia. This program was entitled School-In-A-Box and involved purchasing a "school-in box" for $170USD. These self- contained mobile classrooms were designed to allow a teacher to set up a classroom anywhere in Rwanda and Liberia for up to 80 children.

8) Economic Empowerment for Women: Rwanda Path to Peace (Goals 2 and 5). The Rwanda Path to Peace puts income in the hands of Rwandan women, empowering them to take control of their lives. This program employs 2,500 basket weavers form across Rwanda. The weavers export baskets to raise income for their families. Following the genocide that occurred in Rwanda, this project helps strengthens torn families, offers an option to weavers who need medication and affords their children a better life. This program is in partnership with Macy Stores and the baskets are sold in their stores nationwide.

5. Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development (Special; 1996)

I. Introduction

i. The aims and purpose of the organization and its main course of action

Nippon International Cooperation for Community Development (NICCO), an international NGO based in Kyoto, Japan, which has no religious, political, or racial affiliations was founded in 1979 and accredited as an aggregate corporation by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1993. With a vision to create a world free from poverty and conflicts in harmony with global environment, NICCO devotes itself to achieve the financial and mental self-reliance of people living in poverty-stricken regions and give emergency relief to the victims of natural disasters and complex emergencies. The main activities are: (a) sustainable rural development in harmony with the environment; (b) self-reliance support through income generation and vocational trainings, especially focusing on women; (c) education and healthcare programs for basic human needs; and, (d) Emergency humanitarian aid upon disaster strikes.

ii. Expanded Area of Activities

In addition to its current fields of activities in Asia and the Middle East, NICCO has expanded its activities to Malawi, Africa, since 2006, for the project of food security and sanitation.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its Subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations Meetings

As NICCO allocated more resources on the relief and developmental projects in the field, it did not participate in the United Nations Economic and Social Council conferences in this reporting period. It is partially due to the lack of funding for attending those conferences held in New York or other venues outside of Japan.

Other meetings:

However, in the field, NICCO actively participated or hosted various meetings and symposiums: (i) **Security meetings:** Herat, Afghanistan; April 2002-May 2007; weekly; Information exchange with NGOs and United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA). (ii) **Inter-agency meetings:** Mashhad, Islamic Republic of Iran; April 2004-present; weekly; hosted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR): to share information on repatriation of Afghan refugees. (iii) **Coordination and Cluster meetings:** Hambantota, Sri Lanka; February 2005-September 2005; weekly; hosted by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF): to coordinate the relief and rehabilitation program for the victims of Tsunami in Indian Ocean. (iv) **Coordination and Cluster meetings:** Islamabad, Balakot and Muzafarabad, Pakistan; October 2005-May 2006; weekly; hosted by UNICEF, the World Food Programme (WFP); to coordinate the relief and rehabilitation program for the victims of earthquake in Pakistan. (v) **Regional NGO meeting:** Kobe, Japan; 16 May 2006; hosted by the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), Kobe, Japan; to discuss the role of NGOs in the accomplishment of Hyogo Framework for Action.

(vi) **Coordination and Health Cluster meetings:** Yogyakarta, Indonesia; May 2006-August 2006; weekly; hosted by OCHA and the World Health Organization (WHO): to coordinate the relief and rehabilitation program for the victims of earthquake in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. (vii) **Psycho-social and Education meetings:** Amman, Jordan; July 2007-present; weekly; hosted by UNICEF: to coordinate the relief and support program for the Iraqi refugees in Jordan. (viii) **Symposium on Refugees:** Tokyo, Japan; 26 November 2007; hosted by UNHCR and the Japan Platform: In the symposium titled "Humanitarian aid and Corporate Social Responsibility~ Beyond the Press, 'Producing Refugees'", NICCO shared its views and experience on assisting the former Palestinian refugees in Jordan in cooperation with Japanese business companies.

ii) Cooperation with the United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters:

NICCO's activities were: (i) Food Distribution: Muzafarabad, Pakistan; January 2006-April 2006; cooperation with WFP; (ii) Food for growth: Herat, Afghanistan; December 2006-February 2007; cooperation with WFP; (iii) Psycho-social care for Iraqi Refugees: Zarqa, Jordan; January 2008-present; cooperation with UNHCR; (iv) Film shows on Refugees: Kyoto, Japan; 15 17 November 2007; cooperation with UNHCR Tokyo Office.

iii) Initiatives undertaken by the NGO in support of the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1 - Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger: **Target 1:** Reduce by half the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day - Transferred technique of sustainable agriculture and distributed seedlings of marketable plants with the workshops for capacity-building for 7,000 villagers. *(Nkothakota, Malawi; 2007).* **Target 2:** Reduce by half the proportion of people suffering from hunger: Seeds of maize and beans distributed for 5,000 people in famine for early agricultural recovery; workshop on sustainable agriculture and semi-annual crop organized. *(Nkothakota, Malawi; 2006)*

Goal 2 - Achieve universal primary education: **Target 3:** Ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary education - A school constructed for 3,800 boys and an orphanage for 150 girls. *(Herat, Afghanistan; 2006-2007)*

Goal 3 - Promote gender equality and empower women: **Target 4:** Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and at all levels by 2015 (i) Literacy-promoting courses organized for 40 girls and women. *(Herat, Afghanistan; 2006-2007);* (ii) English courses organized for 60 Afghan refugee girls. *(Mashhad, Iran; 2007)*

Goal 4 - Reduce child mortality: **Target 5:** Reduce by two thirds the mortality rate among children under five - Introduced Ecological-sanitation toilets for 200 families. (*Nkothakota, Malawi; 2007*)

Goal 5 - Improve Maternal Health: **Target 6:** Reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio.

Goal 6 - Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases: **Target 8:** Halt and begin to reverse the incidence of malaria and other diseases (i) Constructed a "Health Post" for improved reproduction clinic in mountainous tribal areas; (ii) Constructed a new road for 4,800 villagers allowing their better access to this health facility, especially in raining season. *(Lam Dong, Vietnam; 2005-2006)*

Goal 7 - Ensure environmental sustainability: **Target 9:** Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs; reverse loss of environmental resources (i) Transferred skills for organic farming product (e.g. olive oil) and organic certification system to the farmers and the officers of the Ministry of Agriculture of Jordan. *(Jerash, Jordan; 2004-2007)*; (ii) Distributed and planted the seedlings of marketable trees for 3,000 villagers for nutrition improvement, income generation and reforestation. *(Herat, Afghanistan; 2004-2007)*; (iii) Distributed and planted the seedlings of edible Moringa and fuel-compatible Jatropha for improved food security and reforestation. *(Nkothakota, Malawi; 2007)*

Goal 8 - Develop a global partnership for development: **Target 12:** Develop further an open trading and financial system that is rule-based, predicable and non-discriminatory, includes a commitment for good governance, development and poverty reduction – nationally and internationally - Hosted international workshop on olive oil production participated by olive farmers, NGOs and olive specialists from Jordan, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Israel and Japan. *(Jerash, Jordan and Jericho, Palestine; 2–3 July 2006 and 9–10 March 2007).* **Target 18:** In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies – especially information and communication technologies – Organized training courses on information and communication technologies for 1,300 Afghan refugees, particularly girls, thus assisting future refugee repatriation. *(Mashhad, Iran; 2004-2007)*